

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

FIG. 5 provides the nucleotide sequence for *Treponema pallidum* arp (SEQ ID NO: 1).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 25, with the following rewritten paragraph:

FIG. 7 provides the nucleotide sequence for *T. pallidum* ssp. *Pertenue* (CDC-2) (SEQ ID NO: 3).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 30, with the following rewritten paragraph:

FIG. 9 provides the nucleotide sequence for *T. pallidum* ssp. *endemicum* (Bosnia) (SEQ ID NO: 5).